

Department of Public Health
and Human Services

Section:
CASELOAD MANAGEMENT

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Subject:
≥Mass Change

Supersedes: FS 1501-2 (10/01/02)

References: 7 CFR 273.12(e)

GENERAL RULE -- Mass changes are initiated by the state or federal government and generally affect the entire caseload or a significant portion of the caseload.

MASS CHANGES

Mass changes are effective the same date for all households. A notice is not required for mass change situations listed in 1 - 5 below; however, it is a best practice to send a notice to the household informing them of the benefit change.

Adequate notice is required to be sent to the household listed in 6 - 8 below (FS 1503-1).

Mass changes include but are not limited to the following:

1. Adjustments to income eligibility standards (Food Stamp Program GMI or NMI limits);
2. Adjustments in the maximum food stamp allotment (Thrifty Food Plan);
3. Adjustments in the standard deduction;
4. Adjustments in the shelter or dependent care deduction;
- ≥ 5. Annual and seasonal adjustments to state utility standards;
6. Periodic cost-of-living adjustments to Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and other federal benefits;
7. Periodic cost-of-living adjustments to TANF Cash, Tribal TANF, or General Assistance (GA) payments; and,
8. Other changes in the eligibility and benefit criteria based on legislative or regulatory changes.

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